

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/820,033

Examiner

Terry L. Englund

Applicant(s)

ORIGASA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amdt/IDS (May 15, 2007).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-7, and 10-22 (now renumbered as 1, 3, 4, 10-14, 5--9, 17-19, 15,16, and 2, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20070515
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to the applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, lines 6-7: changed "a voltage" to --said voltage--;

Claim 17, lines 6-7: changed "a voltage" to --said voltage--;

Claim 18, line 7: added --circuit-- after "divider"; and

Claim 22, line 1: added --power supply-- after "booster".

The four changes described above address/correct minor type oversights. For example, claims 1 and 17 were amended to ensure "voltage booster circuit" on lines 6-7 relate back to "a voltage booster circuit" cited on line 3; claim 18 was amended to ensure consistent labeling throughout the claim with respect to "divider" (e.g. see "divider circuit" on lines 2 and 4); and newly added claim 22 was amended to also provide consistent labeling. Since these changes correct minor oversights, none of the changes affect the scope of the claims.

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT/IDS

The amendment and IDS submitted on May 15, 2007 were reviewed and considered with the following results:

Cancelled claims 8 and 9 rendered their respective objection or rejection moot.

Amended claims 5 and 10 overcame the objections of claims 5-7, 10-11, and 20-21 described on page 3 of the previous Office Action. Therefore, those objections have been

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withdrawn. Although several other concerns were noted when the active claims were reviewed, these were all addressed/corrected by the Examiner's Amendment described above.

Amended claims 1, 3, 6, 12, and 16, and/or the comments on page 8 of the Amendment (with respect to "timing signal") overcame most of the previous Office Action's rejections of claims 1, 3-4, and 12-19 under 35 U.S.C. 112. Although, the amended changes to independent claims 1 and 17 did not satisfactorily overcome everything related to their "voltage booster circuit" rejections described on page 5 of the previous Office Action, this was considered an inadvertent type oversight, wherein the applicants' amendment had changed line 3 of both claims (i.e. "said voltage" to --a voltage--), but a corresponding change was not made on lines 6-7 (e.g. "a voltage" to --said voltage--). This oversight was addressed/corrected by the Examiner's Amendment described above. Therefore, all known rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 have now been withdrawn.

None of the references cited on the recently submitted IDS clearly shows or discloses the all of the specific relationships as recited within the present application's independent claims. For details, see the remarks under the Reasons for Allowance section described below.

Therefore, there is no known objection or rejection remaining within the present application.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the references reviewed and considered shows or discloses a voltage booster power supply circuit as recited within any of independent claims 1, 5, and 17. Although various references show/disclose timing generator circuits (e.g. clock generators or oscillators), level

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shifters, charge pump circuits (e.g. voltage boosting or multiplying circuitry), and/or voltage detectors, none of the references clearly shows or discloses: 1) the level shifter outputting the timing signal with a high level, corresponding to the first voltage, to the charge pump circuit as recited within claims 1 (upon which claims 3-4, 12-16, and 22) and 17 (upon which claims 18-19 depend), wherein the detector circuit activates the timing generator of claim 1, or is related to the activation of the oscillator and charge pump within claim 17; or 2) the detector circuit has a voltage step-down circuit, and the detector circuit's standard voltage generator circuit provides a second standard voltage by decreasing the first voltage, and as recited within claim 5, upon which claims 6-7, 10-11, and 20-21 depend. Since there is no motivation to modify or combine any prior art reference(s) to ensure all the limitations recited within any one of the independent claims are met, the claims are deemed patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

Claims 1, 3-7, and 10-22 are allowed, and they have been renumbered as 1, 3-4, 10-14, 5-9, 17-19, 15-16, and 2, respectively for printing purposes. The renumbering takes into account the cancellation of claims 2 and 8-9, and also regroups related claims closer together. For example, claims 3-4, 12-16, and 22 all depend on claim 1, wherein claims 6-7, 10-11, and 20-21 depend on claim 5.

Any comments considered necessary by the applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Terry L. Englund whose telephone number is (571) 272-1743. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 7 AM to 3 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Pascal, can be reached on (571) 272-1769.

The new central official fax number is (571) 273-8300.


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1562.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Terry L. Englund

24 May 2007



Kenneth B. Wells
Primary Examiner